(a) whether Government are monitoring functioning of "AICTE" and what are the recommendations of the committee, constituted to look into the functioning of "AICTE";

(b) what are the actions initiated based on the those recommendations; and

(c) whether there is any contingency plan to ensure planned growth in technical institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Monitoring of the functioning of AICTE by the Government is a continuous process. However, a committee was also constituted under the chairmanship of Prof. U.R. Rao in this regard. The committee in its report has made suggestions, among others, with regard to fee fixation, regulation of foreign universities, distance education, faculty development, provision for women and weaker section, etc. The AICTE has been asked to comment on the suggestions made in the report.

(c) The AICTE has evolved stringent norms and standards for establishment of new technical institutes. The National Board of Accreditation has been set up to undertake accreditation of the existing institutes. Information about technical manpower requirement is disseminated to different State Governments for perspective planning of technical education.

Expenditure on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

2072. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds sanctioned and spent so far for the "SARVA SHIKSHA ABHIYAN"; and

(b) how many inhabitations are still without a school and how many additional posts of primary teachers are still vacant including those reserved for SCs/STs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) A sum of Rs. 5044.95 crores has been released by the Government of India under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) till 14.3.05 and an expenditure of Rs. 3655.24 crores has been reported by the States/Union Territories by December, 2004 end.

(b) A total no. of 137747 schools have been sanctioned under SSA from 2001 to 2005 and 109642 schools have been opened till December, 2004.

During 2001-04 a total of 535203 posts of elementary teachers have been sanctioned against which 310506 posts have been filled in that period under SSA.

Development of vocational and professional training institutes

2073. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any National Action Plan for expansion and development of vocational and professional training institutes;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether Government are implementing this plan; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) The overall expansion and development of Education including Technical and Vocational Education is based on the National Education Policy-1986 and its Programme of Action, 1992 and provisions of the National Common Minimum Programme. All these documents have already been made public.

Training centres for women

2074. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for setting up of various types of training centres exclusively for women in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) Government's reactions thereto; and

(d) the details of the other schemes formulated for the upliftment of women in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) The Department is not concerned with setting up of training centres exclusively for women.